

the true spirit of our great Nation. In the wake of unspeakable pain and adversity, there came extraordinary acts of heroism, compassion, and voluntarism. There came a unity of purpose and strength of faith few would have believed possible.

We were moved beyond words by the outpouring of help and assistance which came without solicitation from friends far and wide, from caring individuals, public servants, private organizations, and communities throughout Oklahoma and throughout America. We were reminded what a truly great country this is and how blessed we are here in the land of the free and the home of the brave.

On behalf of all of us in Oklahoma, thank you, America. Thank you for helping. Thank you for caring. Thank you for being there in this most difficult time of need.

Nothing anyone can do will erase the indelible scars, pain, and loss that innocent citizens in our State have suffered. But the memories of the generosity and compassion displayed by so many will live in our hearts forever.●

Mr. DOLE. Let me now yield to my distinguished colleague from Illinois.

Ms. MOSELEY-BRAUN. I thank the Senator.

I join my colleague, the majority leader, in his prayers for the families of the victims of the Oklahoma City bombing and the entire American family for the great tragedy that event caused to all of us.

#### REMEMBERING THOSE WHO LOST THEIR LIVES IN BOSNIA

Ms. MOSELEY-BRAUN. At this time, Mr. President, I also call upon my colleagues and the American people to offer a prayer in behalf of the late Secretary of Commerce, Ron Brown, and the 34 others who died with him that tragic day in Bosnia. They were serving our Nation. They were pursuing the goals of peace, and their deaths all came too soon. Because of those losses, as a country we have lost so much.

I appreciate the majority leader giving us this opportunity to express our great sympathy and condolences to their families and again to give us a chance to reaffirm the mission; that they have all given their lives in pursuit of the higher goals of our Nation. Thank you very much, Mr. President. I yield the floor.

Mr. DOLE. I now ask, in response to the statement by my colleague from Illinois, that we now observe a moment of silence in honor of the memory of Ron Brown and others who died in that tragic accident.

[A period of silence.]

Mr. DOLE. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. KERREY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BURNS). Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. KERREY. Mr. President, is the order morning business?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator is correct. We are in morning business, but the first part of morning business is controlled by the Senator from Georgia, Senator COVERDELL.

Several Senators addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Nebraska.

Mr. KERREY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to speak for 5 minutes in morning business.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Several Senators addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alaska.

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I wonder if following the Senator, I could speak for 4 minutes in morning business?

Mr. COVERDELL. Mr. President, reserving the right to object, I say to the Senator from Alaska, we have people trying to catch aircraft. Is it an absolute necessity he have the time? Otherwise, on the time we control, I am trying to accommodate people who are trying to catch aircraft, so I cannot relinquish and relinquish. Does that create a problem for my colleague?

Mr. MURKOWSKI. What is the order of business, if I may ask the Chair?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The order of business at the present time is we are in morning business and the Senator from Nebraska, under a previous order, has 5 minutes.

Mr. COVERDELL. Parliamentary inquiry.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Georgia.

Mr. COVERDELL. Is it not true the Senator from Georgia has control of 1 hour and 15 minutes?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator is correct.

Mr. COVERDELL. We relinquished 5 minutes to the Senator from Nebraska.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. That is correct. The Senator from Nebraska is recognized.

Mr. MURKOWSKI. The Senator from Alaska has asked for 4 minutes following the Senator from Nebraska.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. COVERDELL. Reserving the right to object, I am going to grant the 4 minutes, but I want it to be known that I will ask to recover these 10 minutes at the end of it, because we have people who are lined up. Again, I am trying to accommodate people, so this will be the last I will acknowledge.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the time will not be taken out of the time of the Senator from Georgia.

The Senator from Nebraska is recognized.

#### IRAN-BOSNIA

Mr. KERREY. Mr. President, I rise to discuss the investigation which the Select Committee on Intelligence has undertaken at the majority leader's request regarding allegations that the administration may have secretly acquiesced in or facilitated Iranian arms shipments to the Bosnian Moslems in 1994 and 1995, in violation of stated United States policy. This is a serious request made by a Senator long involved with United States policy in Bosnia. Some have said this request was made for political reasons. Perhaps that is the case. But there is also sufficient reason to believe the Senator from Kansas would have made this request regardless of the political climate or season.

The Intelligence Committee begins this task with a solid base of information because we received some, but not all, of the intelligence available to the administration at the time the Iranian arms shipments were occurring. Our committee has been reviewing and adding to that information base in the 2 weeks since Chairman SPECTER received the majority leader's request. We are well positioned to do a thorough job for the Senate on the sensitive intelligence issues surrounding this matter, particularly the question of whether or not the administration conducted a covert action without informing Congress.

In addition to our familiarity with the topic, the Intelligence Committee is also likely to do a good job on its part of this investigation because we are a bipartisan committee. In setting the strength and composition of the committee, the Senate directed, in Senate Resolution 400, that our membership be close to balance at nine majority members and eight minority, regardless of the composition of the Senate floor, and that the senior minority member function as a vice chairman, not as a ranking member. In creating the Intelligence Committee, the Senate clearly believed that intelligence was too sensitive to be overseen in a partisan, adversarial manner. Chairman SPECTER approaches his leadership duties on the committee in that non-partisan spirit, and so do I.

The history of this committee is replete with conduct like that of Senators COHEN and WARNER, BOREN, NUNN, MOYNIHAN, and others, who have come to this committee and said we are not going to serve in a partisan fashion. We are not going to answer the call of our party, we are going to answer the call of our country. The present and future course of this committee should be as well.

Open allegations against the administration, and a requirement to investigate those allegations, can strain even the most sincere commitment to bipartisanship. Those strains have not